

**To:** Riederer, Jason[Jason.Riederer@mail.house.gov]  
**Cc:** Manzanilla, Enrique[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov]; Herrera, Angeles[Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov]; Harris-Bishop, Rusty[Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov]; Ball, Harold[Ball.Harold@epa.gov]; Higuchi, Dean[Higuchi.Dean@epa.gov]; Keener, Bill (Separated 8/31/17)[Keener.Bill@epa.gov]; Zito, Kelly[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV]  
**From:** Maier, Brent  
**Sent:** Fri 2/24/2017 10:40:04 PM  
**Subject:** Rep. Mark Amodei - Follow Up Regarding Inquiry to EPA Region IX for Status Update on Anaconda Mine (Nevada)  
[Gov Sandoval Anaconda Copper Mine NPL 020816.pdf](#)  
[20160329 NV Final Signed NPL Response.pdf](#)

Jason Riederer, Legislative Director

Office of Congressman Mark Amodei

Jason –

Thanks for your request/inquiry (included at end of message) and nice talking with you this afternoon. As I mentioned when we spoke, I have reached out to my colleagues in our Superfund Division regarding your request for an update on the Anaconda Mine cleanup. I wanted to clarify for you that the current status for the Anaconda Mine Site is that on September 8, 2016 EPA **proposed** listing adding the Anaconda Copper Mine site to the National Priorities List (NPL), but that the site **has not** yet been officially added to the NPL. At the request of NDEP, we have postponed a final decision regarding final NPL listing to this Summer while we evaluate whether a private funding option is viable. I am including below this message a copy of the press release sent out by EPA Region 9 on September 8, 2016.

I am attaching a copy of an EPA letter dated December 22, 2015 from former EPA Regional Administrator Jared Blumenfeld requesting the concurrence of Governor Brian Sandoval to add the Anaconda Copper Mine in Lyon County to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). In addition, I am attaching a copy of Governor Sandoval's response to EPA dated March 29, 2016.

➤ **As I mentioned to you in our call, please note that next week, February 27 – March 3, 2017, I will be away from the office and am asking my Congressional Liaison colleague, Dean Higuchi, to work with Angeles Herrera, Assistant Director in our Superfund Division to set up a call with key managers in our Superfund**

**Division to provide you with an update on the current status of the Anaconda Mine cleanup.**

You should expect to hear from my colleague, Dean Higuchi, on Monday once he has had a chance to connect with the key managers in our Superfund Division to set up a call.

Regard,

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3)

San Francisco, CA 94105

Ph: 415.947.4256

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**September 8, 2016 Press Release:**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Sept. 8, 2016

**EPA Proposes to Add Anaconda Mine Site in Nevada to National Priorities List**

(SAN FRANCISCO) — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it is proposing to add the Anaconda Copper Mine site in Lyon County, Nev., to the Superfund program's National Priorities List. Today's proposal is the first step in a process to make the site eligible to receive federal funding for a long-term, permanent cleanup.

“We have been working to address the contamination at the Anaconda Mine since 2001,” said Alexis Strauss, EPA’s Acting Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. “EPA welcomes public input on the proposal and we look forward to continuing our collaborative work with BLM, the State of Nevada and local officials, tribal governments and the Lyon County community.”

“This public notice in the Federal Register is an anticipated next step in the process to secure federal funds to help with remediation of the Anaconda mine site,” said Kay Scherer, Interim Director of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. “We are pleased to see that the site – which remains fully under control – has been recognized and included on the list of proposed national priorities, as it demonstrates that the U.S. EPA acknowledges the site is on track to proceed with corrective action.”

“The BLM agrees with both EPA and the State that the site warrants attention,” said John Ruhs, Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Director. “The BLM looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the EPA and the State of Nevada on this issue.”

The State, EPA and potentially responsible parties have made significant progress in studying, characterizing and in some instances, cleaning up portions of the Anaconda Copper Mine site. Listing the site will allow access to funding, and development of a comprehensive plan to address the contamination.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the law establishing the Superfund program, requires EPA to update the NPL at least annually and clean up hazardous waste sites to protect human health with the goal of returning them to productive use. The Superfund program has provided important benefits for people and the environment since Congress established the program in 1980. Those benefits are both direct and indirect, and include reduction of threats to human health and ecological systems in the vicinity of Superfund sites, improvement of the economic conditions and quality of life in communities affected by hazardous waste sites, prevention of future releases of hazardous substances, and advances in science and technology.

For Federal Register notices and supporting documents for the final and proposed sites:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites>

For additional documentation, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/anacondacoppermine>

For information about Superfund and the NPL:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund>

## **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

EPA: Margot Perez-Sullivan, [perezsullivan.margot@epa.gov](mailto:perezsullivan.margot@epa.gov)

NDEP: JoAnn Kittrell, [jkittrell@dcnr.nv.gov](mailto:jkittrell@dcnr.nv.gov)

BLM: Lisa Ross, [lross@blm.gov](mailto:lross@blm.gov)

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

75 Hawthorne St. (OPA-3)

San Francisco, CA 94105

Ph: 415.947.4256

**From:** Riederer, Jason [mailto:Jason.Riederer@mail.house.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2017 12:21 PM

**To:** Maier, Brent <Maier.Brent@epa.gov>

**Subject:** EPA Region IX - Anaconda Mine (Nevada)

Brent,

The Congressman would like to receive an update on where the process stands in the EPA Region IX office regarding certain parcels pertaining to the Anaconda Mine clean-up that EPA has brokered with the State of Nevada and British Petroleum (BP)? It's our understanding the process should be completed soon?

Additionally, now that the Anaconda Mine has been designated a superfund site, the Congressman wants to learn of the timeframe the EPA has set to address this site and if funds have been appropriated it? It was our understanding Senator Reid worked with EPA to identify and direct funds to this site, and to raise its priority on the list, before he retired last year.

Thank you for any information,

Jason

Jason M. Riederer

Legislative Director

Congressman Mark E. Amodei (NV-2)

332 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202-225-6155

[Amodei.house.gov](http://Amodei.house.gov)